LIQUID SAMPLER AND METHOD

Abstract of the Disclosure:

A sampler for obtaining wine samples from a wine holding tank is characterized by a manually operable sampler and a connecting device for coupling the sampler to an opening to the tank. The connecting device has open and closed states and the sampler is coupled to the connecting device while it is closed, after which the connecting device is opened to establish a path between the sampler and tank opening. A probe of the sampler, having a forward sample receiving inlet that may be opened and closed, is then manually extended, while its inlet is closed, through the connecting device and tank opening into and through lees deposited as a sediment layer in the region of the tank opening, until the probe inlet is positioned beyond the sediment layer and in wine that is relatively free of sediment. The probe inlet is then opened for flow of a sample of wine from the tank into the inlet and through and out of the probe to a collection container. After collection of the wine sample, the probe inlet is closed and the probe is retracted from the tank and connecting device. The connecting device may then be closed to interrupt the path between the sampler and tank opening, at which point the sampler may be disconnected from the connecting device for use in obtaining additional wine samples by being attached to connecting devices associated with each of a series of additional wine holding tanks.